

## HAGERSTOWN LANDMARKS RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties # WA-HAG-175

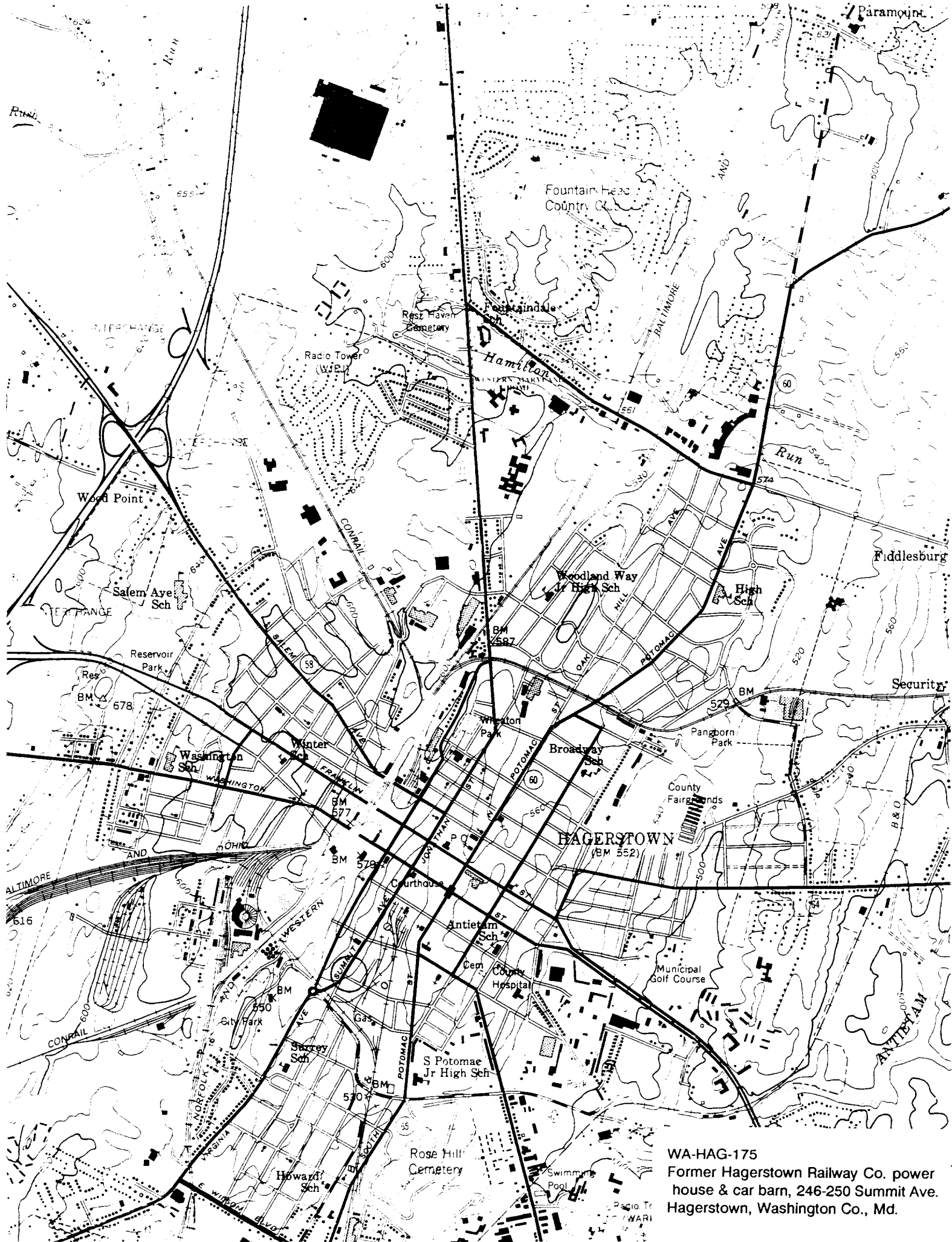
Property Name/Address: Former Hagerstown Railway Co. power house and car barn, 246-250 Summit Ave., Hagerstown, Maryland

Description/Significance: A large one-story brick industrial building, comprising a central section dated 1898 and later wings and ell, reflecting the era when electric trolleys provided public transportation in Hagerstown. The Summit Avenue facade of the original section of the building is three bays wide, with a (blocked) entrance in the south bay surmounted by a fanlight within an arch detailed with molded brick and imposts of rock-faced stone. The remaining bays hold large double casement windows with segmental arched heads; the arches spring from imposts of rock-faced stone. The corners of the building are defined by pilasters of paneled brick; it has a corbeled brick base above a rock-faced stone foundation, and shallow buttresses flanking the central bay. The date "1898" appears in a carved stone block centered in the wall above a louvered vent. The gable roof is clipped on the Summit Avenue end; at the rear of the building, the wall rises to a stepped parapet. The Hagerstown Railway Company was franchised in March, 1896, and began providing trolley service in August of the same year. A car barn, of frame construction, was built in 1897 at Howard Street and Summit Avenue; the Summit Avenue power house was constructed the following year, and provided power for the lines until March 1913. Following the destruction of the car barn by fire in March, 1917, the Summit Avenue power house was converted to shelter trolleys (and later buses). Under increasing competition from automobile buses, trolley service in Hagerstown was gradually discontinued beginning in 1926; the final run took place in 1939 and terminated at this location.

### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

- I. Geographic Organization: Western Maryland
- II. Chronological/Developmental Period(s):  
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
- III. Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Transportation
- IV. Resource Type
  - Category: Building
  - Historic Environment: Urban
  - Historic Function(s) and Use(s):  
TRANSPORTATION/rail-related
  - Known Design Source: Unknown

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WA-HAG-175  
Former Hagerstown Railway Co. power  
house & car barn, 246-250 Summit Ave.  
Hagerstown, Washington Co., Md.



VA-HAG-175

HAGERSTOWN RAILWAY CO. POWER HOUSE & CAR BARN

HAGERSTOWN, MD

7/91 P. KURTZE

VIEW FROM WEST